

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 209852

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TGEN, SHUM, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR HOUSING AGREEMENT: PRE-DEPARTURE BRIEFING
FOR U.S. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (10.00)

REF: A) STATE 178457; B) STATE 195872; C) MOSCOW 19656

1. ON AUGUST 17, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LUERS MET WITH HOUSING AGREEMENT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY DE HANCOCK AT REQUEST OF HUD SECRETARY HARRIS TO PROVIDE POLICY BRIEFING PRIOR TO DE HANCOCK'S AUGUST 18 DEPARTURE FOR MOSCOW EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT MEETING. LUERS CHARACTERIZED KEY ELEMENTS OF CURRENT BILATERAL US-SOVIET RELATIONS, AND REVIEWED EXISTING INTERAGENCY GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTING BILATERAL AGREEMENTS (REF A). IN THIS CONNECTION, DE HANCOCK ASSURED US THAT NO NEW PROJECT COMMITMENTS WOULD BE DISCUSSED WITH THE SOVIETS DURING HER MOSCOW TALKS.

2. DE HANCOCK ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE DECISION TO ALLOW
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TENTATIVE PLANNING FOR THE AGREEMENT'S JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING TO GO FORWARD IS SUBJECT TO RE-EXAMINATION IN LIGHT OF CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES, ALTHOUGH SHE DOES NOT INTEND TO PLACE UNDUE EMPHASIS ON THIS POINT DURING HER MOSCOW DISCUSSIONS. LUERS THOUGHT IT POSSIBLE THAT A FINAL DECISION COULD BE MADE IN EARLY SEPTEMBER ON WHETHER TO HOLD THE MEETING LATER THAT MONTH.

3. IN CLOSING, LUERS STRESSED TO DE HANCOCK IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING EMBASSY APPRISED OF PROGRESS OF HER MOSCOW TALKS. HE SUGGESTED THE UTILITY OF A BRIEFING ON BILATERAL RELATIONS AS VIEWED FROM EMBASSY'S PERSPECTIVE SOON AFTER HER ARRIVAL.

4. LUERS RAISED PROBLEM OF SOVIET FAILURE TO OFFER SATISFACTORY PROGRAM FOR OUR CENTRIFUGE MODELING TEAM. AFTER PERUSING REF C, DE HANCOCK UNDERTOOK TO FOLLOW UP WITH THERENT'YEV IN MOSCOW ON THIS MATTER, CITING CANCELLATION OF U.S. TEAM VISIT AS POSSIBLE RESPONSE IF SOVIETS PROVE OBDURATE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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